

EXAMINERS AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and /or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such amendment, it must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.
2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Sanro Zlobec (Reg. No. 52,535) on 12/2/2010.
3. The application has been amended as follows:
The following claims have been amended as follow:.

35. (Currently Amended) An authentication system, comprising:

an access controller ~~operable to for communicate~~ communicating with a client via a first communication medium; and

an authentication server ~~operable to for communicate~~ communicating with said client and said access controller via a second communication medium and further ~~operable to for deliver~~ delivering a first key to said client and a second key to said access controller, said second key being complementary to said first key such that when said client and said access controller are connected, communications therebetween can be encrypted using said keys; and wherein said access controller is operable to selectively pass instructions received from said client to a computer attached to said access controller if a verification protocol utilizing said keys is met;

wherein said first key is delivered to said client only after said second key has been successfully delivered to said access controller.

45. (Currently Amended) An access controller for intermediating communications between an interface and a computer comprising: and operable to

a memory for store for storing a second key complementary to a first key; said access controller operable to communicate for communicating with a client via said interface; said client operable to store for storing said first key and to receive instructions from a user; said access controller operable to for selectively pass passing said instructions to said computer if a verification protocol utilizing said keys is met; wherein said verification protocol includes a generation of a random number by said client, an encryption of said random number by said client using said first key, a delivery of said random number and said encrypted random number from said client to said access controller, a decryption of said encrypted random number using said second key by said access controller, a comparison of said random number and Said decrypted number, and a decision to pass at least a portion of said instructions if said comparison finds a match of said random number with said decrypted number, and a decision not to pass said at least a portion of said instructions if no match is found; wherein said access controller is operable to obtain said second key from an authentication server and said client is operable to obtain said first key from said authentication server; wherein said first key is obtained by said client only after said second key has been successfully obtained by said access controller.

Claims 56-66 (Cancelled)

67 (Currently Amended) A method of securing access between a client and a computer having an access controller intermediate said client and said computer, said method comprising:

delivering a first key from an authentication server to said client;

delivering a second key from said authentication server to said access controller, said second key complementary to said first key, wherein said first key is delivered to said client only after said second key has been successfully delivered to said access controller;

receiving an instruction destined for said computer;

generating a random number;

encrypting said random number using said [[a]] first key;

delivering said random number, said encrypted random number and said instruction to said access controller;

decrypting said encrypted random number using said [[a]] second key, said second key complementary to said first key;

comparing said random number and said decrypted number;

passing at least a portion of said instruction to said computer if said comparison finds a match of said random number with said decrypted number;
and,

discarding said at least a portion if no match is found.

Claims 70-73 (Cancelled)

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shawki S Ismail whose telephone number is 571-272-3985. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on 571-272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Shawki S Ismail/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2455

Application/Control Number: 10/673,509
Art Unit: 2455

Page 6